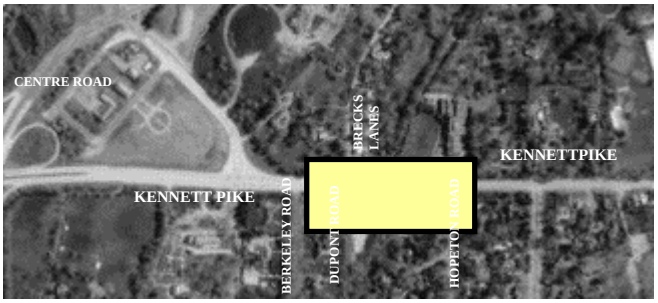
Delaware DOT

BRIDGE 1B ON ROUTE 52 / KENNETT PIKE OVER RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS

PUBLIC WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 7, 2006

General Project Overview – Bridge 1B, which is located between Dupont Road and Hopeton Road, carries Kennett Pike (Route 52) over the abandoned B&O rail line. DelDOT has identified this bridge as needing replacement. This project includes replacing the existing structure, constructing a school bus pull off lane along Kennett Pike for the A.I. du Pont Middle School and reconstructing the Park-n-Ride facility at Dupont Road. The park and ride upgrades will include new lighting and landscaping.

PROJECT LOCATION



Project Description – The project includes improvements to existing Kennett Pike as well as improvements to Dupont Road and the Park-n-Ride facility. Construction time and impacts to the users of Kennett Pike was strongly considered in the design process and the proposed replacement structure was selected with these factors in mind. The objective of the project was to replace the aging bridge structure, Bridge 1B, along Kennett Pike (Route 52) with a structure that could be built with minimal impacts to the roadway users.

A structural plate arch is the proposed replacement structure and can be erected while existing Kennett Pike remains open to traffic. The proposed structure utilizes some of the existing structure and will be constructed with minimal impact to the Kennett Pike traffic. The new structure and proposed work along Kennett Pike can not be completed without some disruption to traffic and will require a complete closure of Kennett Pike for a short time. During this closure, which is expected around the July 4th holiday, the existing bridge deck and pavement will be removed and the proposed roadway pavement will be placed. A signed detour route will be provided during the closure.

Other improvements along Kennett Pike include widening of the roadway at the A.I. du Pont Middle School to provide a safe area for school buses to stop to load and unload students. The proposed bus pull off lane includes new curb, sidewalk, traffic barrier, drainage improvements, landscaping, and pedestrian level lighting. A DART bus pad and shelter are also proposed as part of this project on the southbound side of Kennett Pike just south of the Dupont Road intersection. A proposed storm drain system on the southbound side of Kennett Pike south of the bridge is included to upgrade the existing system.

This project also includes improvements to both Dupont Road and the Park-n-Ride facility. Drainage improvements, pavement milling and resurfacing, and new pavement striping are proposed for Dupont Road. The park-n-ride facility will be completely reconstructed with new curb, sidewalk, and pavement. The proposed upgrades to the park-n-ride facility will include extensive landscaping and lighting.

Construction Schedule – Construction is scheduled to begin in early March 2006. The construction of this project is divided into 5 phases with the first phase subdivided into two sub phases, to allow Verizon to relocate their existing facilities. The proposed construction is to be completed in 225 calendar days, October 2006.

The construction will be done in a manner that will minimize impacts to the surrounding community and the road users. However, the construction phasing will require a complete roadway closure, anticipated to be during the July 4th holiday. During the road closure, construction activities will be continuous throughout the entire day, including night time work. This 24 hour a day operation is required to reopen Kennett Pike as quickly as possible.

Other construction phases will require lane closures throughout the project. Every effort will be made to maintain traffic safely through the work zone and expedite construction activities that impede traffic; however construction activities are always dependent upon weather conditions.

? QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS !

Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns.

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